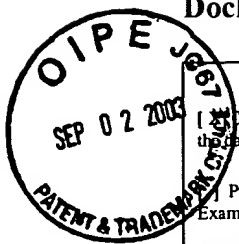


Docket No. VAS-4761CONDIV



**Certificate of Mailing/Transmission (37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)):**

I,                     , Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.8, I hereby certify that this paper and all enclosures are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail on the date indicated below in an envelope addressed to Box RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313.

I,                     , Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.6(d), I hereby certify that this paper and all enclosures are being sent via facsimile on the date indicated below to the attention of Examiner                      at Facsimile No                      at                      a.m./p.m.

Dated: September 2, 2003

Name of Person Certifying:  
Printed Name:

*Melissa Sanchez*  
Melissa Sanchez

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Donald Shannon et al.

Assignee: Edwards Lifesciences  
LLC

Serial No.: 09/912,006

Examiner: Rossi, J.

Filing Date: July 24, 2001

Group Art Unit: 1733

Title: RADIALLY EXPANDABLE TAPE-REINFORCED VASCULAR GRAFTS

#13/D WE  
WE  
9/9/03

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Box RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced patent application, please enter the following amendment to the application.

Amendments to the Specification (none)

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.

RCE and Three Month Extension of Time filed herewith.